



Proclamation

Presented to

Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers SUPPORTING FAMILIES AFFECTED BY INCARCERATION

WHEREAS, Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers has improved the lives of children with incarcerated parents, and supported their caregivers and parents both in and out of the prison system for eight years; and

WHEREAS, Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers raises awareness about the 6,000+ children of incarcerated parents in Hawai'i, and how incarceration can affect any family, regardless of ethnicity, economic status or education; and

WHEREAS, Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers educates the public about children whose parents are incarcerated and the difficulties they face at home; a parent's incarceration can affect a child's school performance resulting in poor behavior and grades, truancy, suspensions and low graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers strongly believes that children have the right to receive support as they struggle with the burden of having an incarcerated parent; and

WHEREAS, Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers provides support and positive interventions including one-on-one mentoring; children's peer support groups; parent-child interactive programs in the prisons; and parenting classes for caregivers and incarcerated parents to strengthen familial bonds and provide smoother transitions for family reunification and community reintegration; and

WHEREAS, Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers' goal is to identify and reach families affected by incarceration through facilitating and maintaining a network of community stakeholders including faith based partners, correctional centers, legislators, school systems, the justice system, and community programs such as Supporting Keiki of Incarcerated Parents, Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center, Camp Agape, Catholic Charities, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Clubs, the YMCA and other groups; and

WHEREAS, Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers' success includes the 300+ interested individuals who have joined Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers and the Supporting Keiki of Incarcerated Parents program at the "Summit to Strengthen Families Affected by Incarceration";

THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 30, 2011, as

"STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AFFECTED BY INCARCERATION DAY"

in Hawai'i, and ask the people of our State to join us in recognizing Keiki O Ka Aina for its outstanding support of strengthening the lives of children and families affected by incarceration.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-ninth day of September, 2011.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i



BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i